

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office action mailed on July 26, 2007. This paper amends claims 2, 3, 5, 13, 14, 16, 25 and 26, and cancels claims 1, 4, 12, 15, 24 and 27, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 2, 3, 5-11, 13, 14, 16-23, 25 and 26 will be pending.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

The Office action indicates that claims 7-11 and 18-22 are allowed and that claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 25 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges this indication of allowable subject matter. The Applicant has rewritten claims 2, 3, 5, 13, 14, 16, 25 and 26 in independent form, with claim 6 depending from claim 5 and claim 17 depending from claim 16. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 25 and 26, in addition to claims 7-11 and 18-22.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office action rejects claims 1, 4, 12, 15, 23, 24 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7,024,476 to Page et al. (Page). This rejection is moot with respect to canceled claims 1, 4, 12, 15, 24 and 27, and is respectfully traversed with respect to claim 23.

As amended, claim 23 recites, *inter alia*, "means responsive to the discovery information for creating a plug-in module with the predetermined interface, the module specifying a device type dependent directory lookup procedure for examining network directories for device references and a device type dependent network probe procedure for probing the network for referenced devices." The Applicant respectfully submits that Page fails to teach or suggest these claimed features.

In particular, Page does not teach a device type dependent directory lookup procedure or a device type dependent network probe procedure. This is apparently recognized by the Office action in view of the allowable subject matter indicated. For example, allowable claim 3 recites that the directory look up procedure and the network probe procedure are both dependent on the specific device. Similarly, steps (c1) and (c2) of allowable claim 5 both recite "using device type dependent procedures."

Although these claims indicated as allowable recite additional features, the Applicant respectfully submits that the recitation of a device type dependent directory lookup

procedure and a device type dependent network probe procedure in claim 23 is sufficient to patentably distinguish over Page. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 23 as well.

III. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. The Applicant respectfully submits the present application, as amended, is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 in the amount of \$840.00, for excess independent claims fee. The Applicant believes no further fees or petitions are required. However, if any such petitions or fees are necessary, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 accordingly.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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